

CLAIMS:

1. A battery comprising positive and negative plates, two connecting straps (3), one connected to the positive plates and the other to the negative plates, the plates and straps (3) being enclosed in a box (1) with a lid (2), and two terminals (4), each one projecting from a respective connecting strap (3) through a respective aperture in the lid (2), characterised by further comprising two zones (7) on the underside of the lid (2), each one surrounding one of the two apertures and facing an upper surface (8) of the respective strap (3), two compressible seals (10) each one surrounding a respective aperture and being compressibly located between the respective zone (7) and the facing upper surface (8) of the strap (3), and two spaces each one being defined around a respective terminal interiorly of the respective aperture, each space containing settable material in a set condition.
2. A battery according to Claim 1 characterised in that each seal (10) comprises a sealing ring.
3. A battery according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 characterised in that each seal (10) is compressed by a predetermined amount.
4. A battery according to Claim 1, 2 or 3 characterised in that each seal (10) is contained within a groove (9) which surrounds the respective aperture.
5. A battery according to Claim 4 characterised in that the groove (9) has an overall predetermined depth less than the height of the seal (10).
6. A battery according to Claim 4 or Claim 5 characterised in that the groove (9) is formed wholly in the zone (7).
7. A battery according to Claim 4 or Claim 5 characterised in that the groove (9) is formed wholly in the upper surface (8) of the strap (3).
8. A battery according to Claim 4 or Claim 5 characterised in that the groove (9) is formed partly in the zone (7) and partly in the upper surface (8) of the strap (3).
9. A battery according to any one of the preceding claims characterised by comprising retaining means (15) for each terminal (4) which ensures that the upper surface (8) of the respective strap (3) and the respective zone (7) remain in contact and that the compression of the seal (10) is maintained.
10. A battery according to Claim 9 characterised in that the retaining means

(15) comprises a screw-threaded collar positioned on an externally screw-threaded portion of the respective terminal (4), a lower part (16) of the collar (15) contacting a region (18) of the lid (2) above the zone (7).

11. A battery according to Claim 9 or Claim 10 characterised by comprising at least one channel (25) for enabling settable material to be fed to the space around the respective terminal.

12. A battery according to Claim 11 characterised in that at least one channel (25) is provided in the retaining means (15).

13. A battery according to Claim 11 or Claim 12 characterised in that at least one channel (25) is provided in the lid (2).

14. A battery according to any one of Claims 9 to 13 characterised in that the apertures are each positioned at the base (6) of a respective recess (5) formed in the lid (2) and the retaining means (15) is positioned wholly within the recess (15).

15. A battery according to any one of Claims 9 to 14 characterised in that settable material surrounds the retaining means (15).

16. A battery according to any one of the preceding claims characterised in that each terminal (4) has a lower part which is embedded in the material of the respective strap (3), the lower part comprising a flanged base portion (11) and a narrower neck portion (12) above the base portion (11).

17. A battery according to any one of the preceding claims characterised in that each terminal (4) is provided with a cap (27) arranged to extend between the terminal and the lid (2) of box (1).

18. A battery according to Claim 17 characterised in that said cap (27) comprises a top part (28) and a cylindrical part (24).

19. A battery according to Claim 17 or Claim 18 characterised in that each terminal (4) is provided with an undercut shoulder 23 to which the cap (27) is secured in a snap fit arrangement.

AMENDED SHEET